Section I:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the CLAIMS

Claims 1 - 13 (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A <u>computer-implemented</u> method ~~for automatically rating the~~ ~~performance of one or more resource vendors in a grid computing environment,~~ comprising ~~the~~ ~~steps of~~:

receiving one or more grid resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics

    regarding <u>Online Transaction Processing</u> job processing;

<u>responsive to said receiving of self-reports,</u> accessing one or more ~~client-driven performance~~

    ~~criteria definitions, comprising accessing at least a~~ Service Level <u>Agreements</u>

    ~~Agreement~~;

receiving one or more job results from a grid resource;

performing by a logical device an analysis of said <u>received</u> job results <u>and said received self-</u>

    <u>reports</u> against said <u>Service Level Agreement</u> ~~client-driven performance criteria and said~~

    ~~self-reports, said analysis comprising performing one or more analyses pertaining to job~~

    ~~types where job type is selected from a group of Online Transaction Processing jobs,~~

    ~~batch jobs, database jobs, and scientific jobs,~~ said analysis <u>further</u> comprising

    determining one or more sub-ratings selected from [[the]] <u>a</u> group [[of]] <u>comprising</u>

    percentage of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time

    constraints, an interactiveness rating, <u>and</u> a cost compliance rating, ~~and a results accuracy~~

    ~~rating, said analysis further comprising determining a composite rating using a weighted~~

    ~~combination of a plurality of sub-ratings;~~ <u>and</u>

producing a grid resource rating table having sub-ratings ~~having an indication of the age of the~~

    ~~information upon which the table is based having an indicator of the number of jobs upon~~

    ~~which the ranking for each resource vendor is based and having a composite rating,~~

    ~~including producing~~ <u>in</u> a human-readable report~~, producing~~ <u>or in</u> a computer-readable

    report <u>in a computer memory device, or in both a human-readable report and in a</u>

    <u>computer-readable report in a computer memory device, said report including</u> ~~producing~~

    a rank-ordered Grid Vendor Rating Table for a plurality of resource vendors according to

    a weighted analysis of said sub-ratings for each resource vendor[[;]] <u>.</u>

~~accessing said produced Grid Vendor Rating Table, a job request, a set of available grid resource~~

    ~~characteristics, and one or more client-driven performance criteria definitions; and~~

~~producing a grid vendor selection which meets said client-driven performance definitions~~

    ~~according its grid resource characteristics, and which is indicated by said Grid Vendor~~

    ~~Rating Table to historically meet desired performance criteria.~~

Claims 15 - 39 (cancelled)

40. (new) A computer memory comprising:

a computer readable memory suitable for encoding software; and

one or more computer programs encoded by said computer readable memory and configured to:

      receive one or more grid resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics
           regarding Online Transaction Processing job processing;

      responsive to said receiving of self-reports, accessing one or more Service Level
           Agreements;

      receive one or more job results from a grid resource;

      performing by a logical device an analysis of said received job results and said received
           self-reports against said Service Level Agreement, said analysis comprising
           determining one or more sub-ratings selected from a group comprising percentage
           of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time constraints,
           an interactiveness rating, and a cost compliance rating; and

      producing a grid resource rating table having sub-ratings in a human-readable report or in
           a computer-readable report in a computer memory device, or in both a human-
           readable report and in a computer-readable report in a computer memory device,
           said report including a rank-ordered Grid Vendor Rating Table for a plurality of
           resource vendors according to a weighted analysis of said sub-ratings for each
           resource vendor.

41. (new) A system comprising:

a hardware means for performing a logical process;

a self-report receiver portion of said hardware means configured to receive one or more grid
    resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics regarding Online Transaction
    Processing job processing;

a Service Level Agreement accesser portion of said hardware means configured to, responsive to
    said receiving of self-reports, access one or more Service Level Agreements;

a job results receiver portion of said hardware means configured to receive one or more job
    results from a grid resource;

an analyzer portion of said hardware means configured to perform an analysis of said received
    job results and received self-reports against said Service Level Agreement, said analysis
    comprising determining one or more sub-ratings selected from a group comprising
    percentage of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time
    constraints, an interactiveness rating, and a cost compliance rating; and

a report producer portion of said hardware means configured to produce a grid resource rating
    table having sub-ratings in a human-readable report or in a computer-readable report in a
    computer memory device, or in both a human-readable report and in a computer-readable
    report in a computer memory device, said report including a rank-ordered Grid Vendor
    Rating Table for a plurality of resource vendors according to a weighted analysis of said
    sub-ratings for each resource vendor.

42. (new) The system as set forth in Claim 41 wherein said hardware means comprises a
microprocessor.

43. (new) The system as set forth in Claim 41 wherein said hardware means comprises an
integrated circuit.